

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 05388 272233Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 FAA-00
DOTE-00 /065 W

-----102858 272239Z /65

O R 272201Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2934

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

USCINCSO

PANCANAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5388

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PINT, EAIR, MILI, PN, PQ, BL

SUBJECT: ALLEGED HARASSMENT OF PANAMANIAN HELICOPTER BY U.S.
PLANES

REF: PANAMA 5371

1. U.S. MILITARY GROUP AIR FORCE SECTION CHIEF HAS REVIEWED
TAPE OF INCIDENT SUPPLIED BY THE FAA. CONVERSATIONS
BETWEEN HELICOPTER PILOT, FAA CONTROLLER AND A-7
PILOTS CONFIRM PRELIMINARY FAA VERSION REPORTED REFTEL.
TAPE RECORDING INCLUDES A STATEMENT BY THE PANAMANIAN
PILOT THAT THE TWO FIGHTERS PASSED BY HIM AT A DISTANCE OF
ONE-HALF MILE.

2. AIR FORCE SECTION CHIEF MET WITH PANAMANIAN AIR FORCE
CHIEF PURCELL AT LATTER'S REQUEST THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS
THE INCIDENT. PURCELL WAS UNFAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS
OF THE INCIDENT AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE INFORMATION
PROVIDED BY U.S. ACCORDING TO PURCELL, PILOT REPORTED
THE INCIDENT TO THE PRESS WITHOUT HIS (PURCELL'S)
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KNOWLEDGE.

3. FAA'S BALBOA CONTROL CENTER RECEIVED A REQUEST
THIS MORNING FROM THE PANAMANIAN CIVIL AVIATION
OFFICE FOR A TAPE RECORDING OF THE INCIDENT. FAA
WASHINGTON AGREED TO PROVIDE THE TAPE, SUBJECT TO
THE AMBASSADOR'S APPROVAL. AFTER REVIEWING THE TAPE,

IT WAS DECIDED TO GIVE THE PANAMANIAN A COPY IN
ORDER TO CLARIFY THE ALLEGED INCIDENT.

4. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO FORMAL COMMUNICATION ABOUT THE
INCIDENT FROM THE GOP. SOUTHCOM PRESS RELEASE ON THE
INCIDENT WILL BE CABLED SEPARATELY.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, AIRCRAFT HARASSMENT, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, HELICOPTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PANAMA05388
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770269-0593
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770714/aaaaalof.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 740ff762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PANAMA 5371
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1734394
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED HARASSMENT OF PANAMANIAN HELICOPTER BY U.S. PLANES
TAGS: PBOR, PINT, EAIR, MILI, PGOV, PN, PQ, BL, US, (BANZER SUAREZ, HUGO), (TORRIJOS HERRERA, OMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/740ff762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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